

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Melissa Hunter-Ensor on May 20, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 4 has been canceled.

Claim 5 has been canceled.

Claim 6 has been canceled.

Claim 7 has been canceled.

Claim 8 has been canceled.

Claim 11 has been canceled.

Claim 29 has been canceled.

Claim 30 has been canceled.

Claim 31 has been canceled.

Claim 35 has been canceled.

Claim 36 has been canceled.

In claim 1, the term, "an agent" has been replaced with the phrase, "a small

interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3.”.

In claim 2, the phrase, “A method of claim 1 wherein said agent” has been replaced with the phrase, “The method of claim 1, wherein said small interfering RNA”.

In claim 3, the phrase, “A method of claim 1 wherein said agent” has been replaced with the phrase, “The method of claim 1, wherein said small interfering RNA”.

In claim 9, the phrase, “wherein the expression of MINOR in the dendritic cells is decreased by transduction of the cells with a lentiviral vector encoding an siRNA construct having substantial sequence homology to MINOR” has been replaced with the phrase, “wherein the dendritic cells are transduced with a lentiviral vector encoding said small interfering RNA”.

In claim 10, the phrase, “expression of a protein” has been replaced with the phrase, “expression of MINOR protein”.

In claim 10, the phrase, “encoding an siRNA construct having substantial sequence homology to said protein” was replaced with the phrase, “encoding a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3”.

In claim 13, the phrase, “encoding an siRNA construct having substantial sequence homology to MINOR” was replaced with the phrase, “encoding a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3”.

In claim 16, the phrase, “encoding an siRNA construct having substantial

sequence homology to MINOR” was replaced with the phrase, “encoding a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3”.

In claim 18, the phrase, “encoding an siRNA construct having substantial sequence homology to MINOR” was replaced with the phrase, “encoding a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3”.

In claim 20, the phrase, “expressing siRNA’s having substantial sequence homology to mitogen induced nuclear orphan receptor (MINOR)” was replaced with the phrase, “expressing a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3”.

In claim 23, the phrase, “preparing an siRNA construct having substantial sequence homology to MINOR” was replaced with the phrase, “preparing a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3”.

In claim 23, the term, “said construct” was replaced with the term, “said small interfering RNA”.

In claim 24, the phrase, “encoding an siRNA construct having substantial sequence homology to MINOR” was replaced with the phrase, “encoding a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3”.

In claim 25, the phrase, “encoding an siRNA construct having substantial

sequence homology to MINOR" was replaced with the phrase, "encoding a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3".

In claim 26, the phrase, "The method of claim 20" was replaced with the phrase, "The method of claim 25".

In claim 27, the phrase, "an agent that inhibits MINOR expression" was replaced with the phrase, "a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3".

In claim 27, the term, "and. (e)" was replaced with the term, "and (e)".

In claim 28, the phrase, "wherein the dendritic cells are obtained by" was replaced with the phrase, "wherein the method further comprises".

In claim 32, the phrase, "comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of 5'GATCCCCTGCCCTTGTCCGAGCTTTATTCAAGAGATAAAGCTCGGACAAGGG CATTTTGGAAA-3'; forward (SEQ ID NO: 2) and 5'AGCTTTTCCAAAATGCCCTTGTCCGAGCTTTATCTCTTGAATAAAGCTCGGACAA GGGCAGGG-3'; reverse (SEQ ID NO:3)" was replaced with the phrase, "comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3".

In claim 34, the phrase, "an agent that inhibits mitogen induced nuclear orphan receptor (MINOR) expression, wherein the agent that inhibits MINOR expression is selected from peptides, peptidomimetics, small molecules or inhibitory nucleotides" was replaced with the phrase, "a small interfering RNA comprising the double stranded nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:3, wherein the small interfering

RNA inhibits mitogen induced nuclear orphan receptor (MINOR) expression".

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Terra C. Gibbs whose telephone number is 571-272-0758. The examiner can normally be reached from 9 am - 5 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Calamita can be reached on 571-272-2876. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Art Unit: 1635

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/Terra Cotta Gibbs/

May 22, 2011